THE BOY FRIENDS

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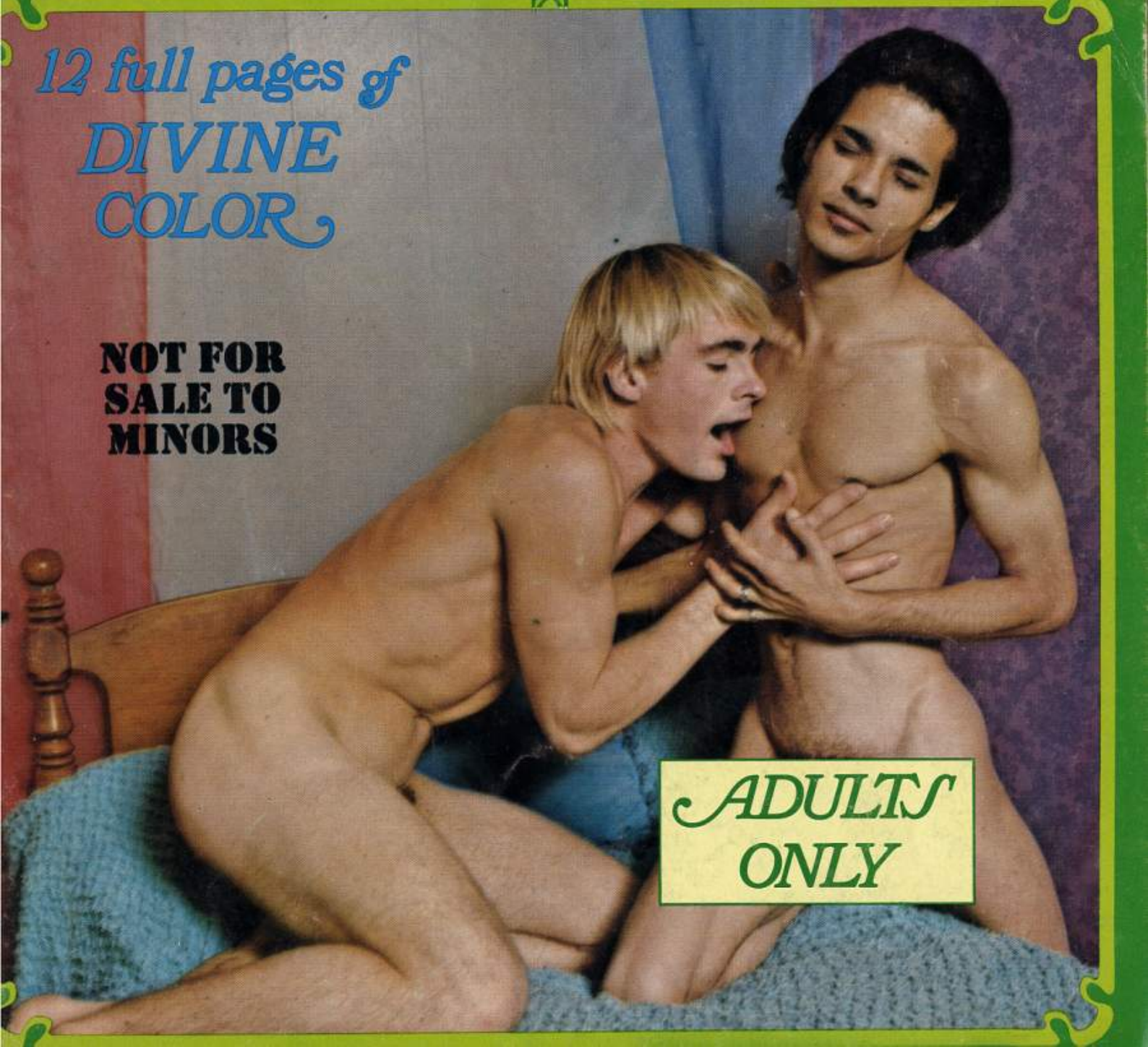

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FEATURES

Going Greek — The Ram — The Wounded Stereotype — article
Panther on The Prowl — Beefcake for Sale — Fun Alone
Gay, Beautiful And Deadly — fiction by Fairfax Miller — Stood Up
Unexpected Guest

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EDITORIAL

An interesting study in contrasts is the one between the treatment of homosexuality in the film "Suddenly Last Summer" a film of about a decade ago first being shown on television today, and the more candid treatments in today's films. Obviously, the topic can be discussed in this day in a tone of frankness that could not even have been used a decade ago.

The causes for this change are many and varied. Oddly, the liberalization of the popular attitude toward homosexuality may stem in part from a liberalization in attitudes toward heterosexual sex. Today, we live in a much more permissive society than the one in which we lived ten years ago. To some extent, that change was caused by the hippies, who broke away so dramatically from all the cultural limitations of the establishment. They created a new sex code that can be simplified in the statement, "Do your own thing."

While the average American may have been shocked at first by the sexual freedom of the hippies, in time he grew to tolerate it. After all, it was discussed and depicted in the mass media as if it were an everyday, acceptable thing. Therefore, the motto "Do your own thing" came to be almost accepted by the establishment. The result, in the bargain, seems to have been a more liberal attitude toward homosexuality. There is even a surprising amount of pressure today to change the laws against it.

NICHOS IS A NEW ARRIVAL IN THE U.S.A. HE'S HERE ON THE STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM. AN EXCELLENT SCHOLAR OF GREEK LITERATURE, HE CAME TO STUDY AT A BIG SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY.

GOING GREEK.....

HE FOUND THE UNITED STATES MUCH TO HIS LIKING RIGHT FROM THE START. HE FOUND A PAD BY ANSWERING ONE OF THE ADS IN AN UNDER-GROUND NEWSPAPER IN L.A.

THE AD SAID: "GOOD-LOOKING, BLONDE MALE STUDENT WISHES TO SHARE PAD WITH GUY INTERESTED IN GREEK." IT SEEMED TO NICHOS TO BE RIGHT UP HIS ALLEY.

THAT'S HOW NICHOS, THE LAD FROM GREECE, GOT TO MEET HIS BUDDY, ROLF, A STRAPPING LAD FROM MINNESOTA. "THEY REALLY GROW 'EM IN MINNESOTA," BOASTS ROLF.

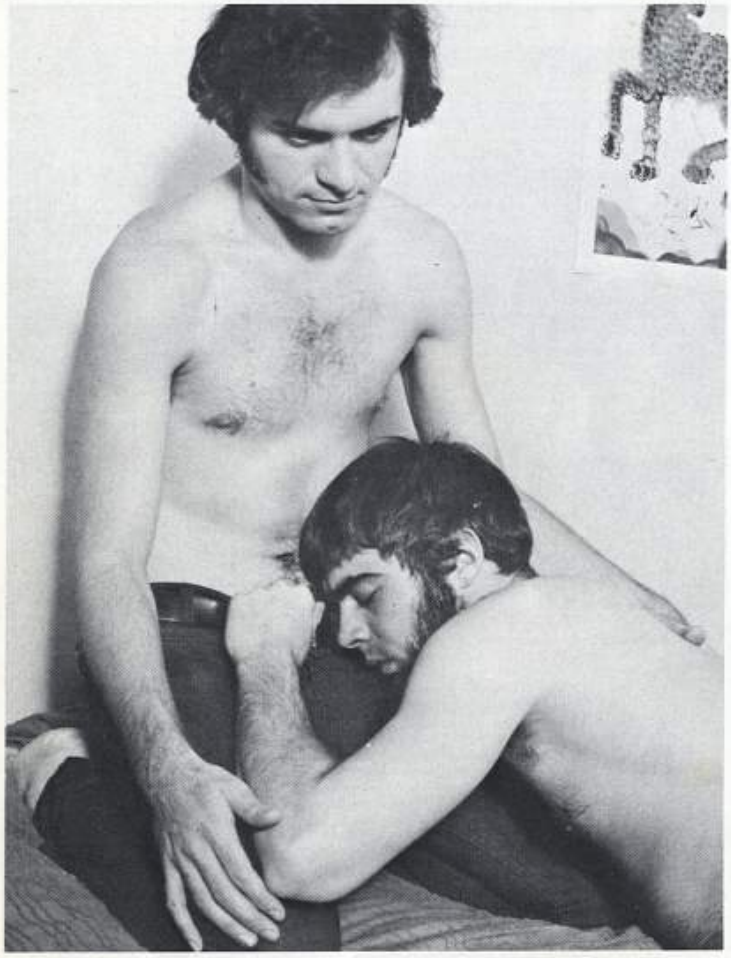
THE TWOSOME FOUND IT SO MUCH FUN BEING TOGETHER LAST TERM, THAT THIS TIME AROUND THEY HAVE SCHEDULED THEIR CLASSES AT THE SAME TIME.

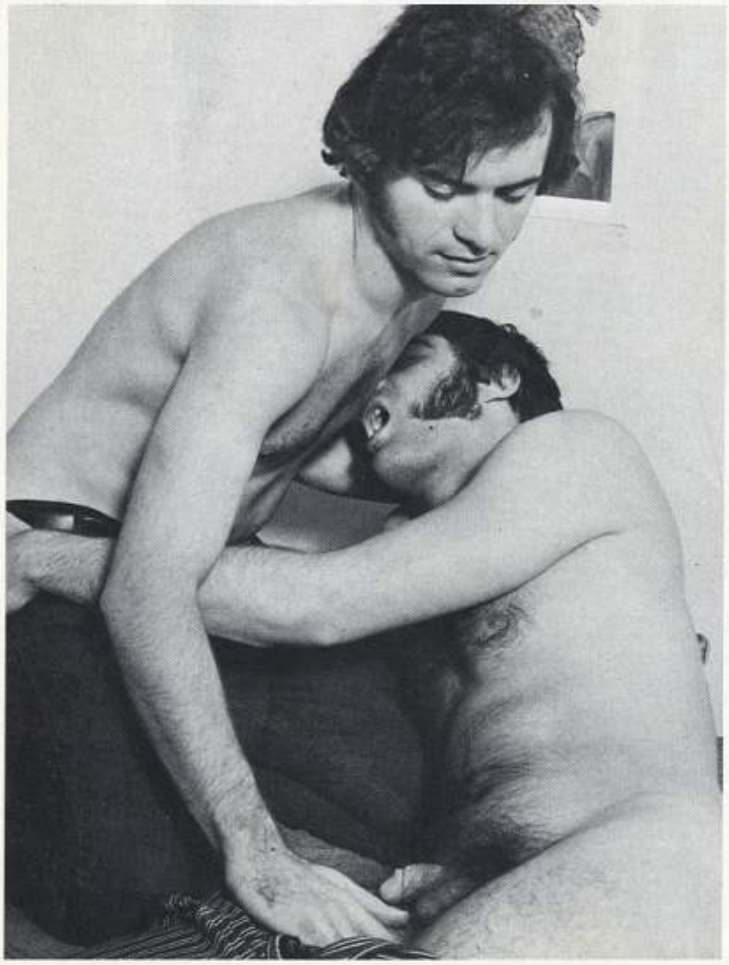
HE WILL FIND NOTHING BUT AGREEMENT ON THE PART OF NICHOS, FOR THE TWO OF THEM GET ALONG FAMOUSLY. ROLF IS A PHYSICAL EDUCATION MAJOR, YET HE SHARES A GREAT DEAL WITH THE SCHOLARLY GREEK.

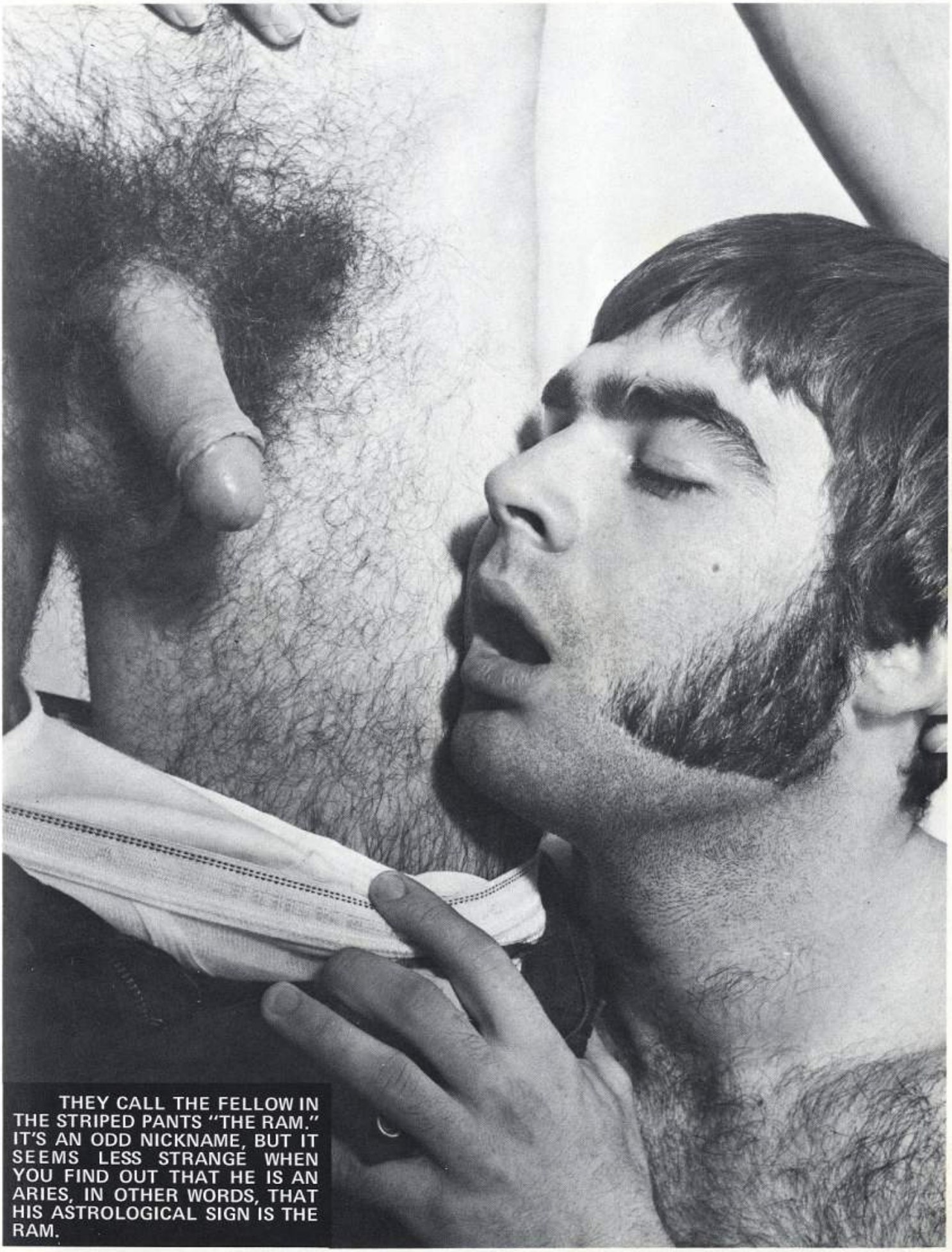
THERE'S AN OLD SAYING, "IF YOU CAN'T LOVE A GREEK, YOU CAN'T LOVE ANYBODY." HOW TRUE THAT IS CANNOT BE GUESSED, BUT NICHOS HAS ROLF BELIEVING IT.

THEY'VE EVEN FIGURED OUT A WAY TO DO THEIR HOMEWORK TOGETHER. WHILE NICHOS READS GREEK POETRY ALOUD, ROLF DOES HIS EXERCISES TO THE RHYTHM AND METER OF THE POETRY. SO FAR IT'S WORKING OUT BECAUSE THEY ARE BOTH GETTING HIGH GRADES!

THE RAM







THEY CALL THE FELLOW IN THE STRIPED PANTS "THE RAM." IT'S AN ODD NICKNAME, BUT IT SEEMS LESS STRANGE WHEN YOU FIND OUT THAT HE IS AN ARIES, IN OTHER WORDS, THAT HIS ASTROLOGICAL SIGN IS THE RAM.

HIS FRIEND IS A SCORPIO, BUT THEY HAVEN'T TAKEN TO NICKNAMING HIM "SCORPIO" YET. HE'S LEARNING MORE THAN JUST ASTROLOGY AT THE HANDS OF THE RAM.

THE RAM AND—LET'S CALL HIM SCORPIO—ARE GETTING ALONG FINE DURING THEIR FIRST LESSON IN HOROSCOPE READING. WHAT SCORPIO DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT HIS SIGN, HE'S LEARNING VERY QUICKLY.